

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 IO-14 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /078 W
-----000244 021656Z /41

O 021622Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8593
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PINT EG
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SADAT MAY DAY SPEECH

1. SADAT'S TWO-HOUR ADDRESS ON OCCASION EGYPTIAN LABOR DAY, BILLED IN ADVANCE AS MAJOR SPEECH, BEGAN WITH REFERENCES TO FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESSES, CLAIMING ENTIRE WORLD NOW SUPPORTS PEACE INITIATIVE AS "POSITIVE PARTNER" AND HAS JOINED IN CALL FOR FULL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND RESTORATION OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING SELF-DETERMINATION AND RIGHT ESTABLISH OWN STATE. ISRAELI MASK REMOVED AND WORLD COGNIZANT ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE.

2. SADAT CONTRASTED HIS TO PRE-INITIATIVE/PRE-OCTOBER 73 PERIOD IN WHICH ARABS SPOKE ONLY TO EACH OTHER AND NO ONE LISTENED. PRESIDENT CLAIMED HIS INITIATIVE HAVING EFFECT WITHIN ISRAEL; THOUSANDS CALLING UPON BEGIN TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY AND GIVE UP LAND FOR PEACE. MILLIONS
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OF EUROPEANS AND AMERICANS, TOO, SAID TO SUPPORT EGYPT AND ARAB CAUSE. ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTING AVOID CRISIS BY REDUCING INITIATIVE'S EFFECT DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

3. HOWEVER, U.S. ADMINISTRATION "DOING ITS BEST."
PRESIDENT CARTER'S DIFFERENCES WITH BEGIN ARE WELL

KNOWN; WHITE HOUSE WEEKEND STATEMENT AND AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER DEMONSTRATED U.S. COMMITMENT HAS NOT CHANGED. CARTER'S ATTITUDE SHOULD BE FULLY RESPECTED; U.S. PRESIDENT HAS COMMITTED HIMSELF TO SADAT, TO RES. 242 AND HE REMAINS COMMITTED ON ILLEGALITY OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS. SADAT SAID THIS ATTITUDE SHARED BY MANY CONGRESSMEN AND LARGE NUMBER OF JEWS WHO DON'T WANT OPPORTUNITY TO SLIP AWAY.

4. SADAT CASTIGATED POLITICAL "TEENAGERS" WHO CLAIM INITIATIVE DESTROYED PROSPECTS FOR GENEVA. QUOTED ASAD AS SAYING NEITHER SYRIA NOR USSR INTENDED HOLD GENEVA CONFERENCE AND LISTED MANY OBSTACLES SYRIAN REGIME PLACED IN WAY OF RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT CONCLUDED CAIRO FULLY PREPARED FOR GENEVA BUT CONFERENCE USELESS UNLESS FULL PREPARATIONS COMPLETED IN ADVANCE. CONCLUDED EGYPT NEGOTIATING OPENLY; PRINCIPLES DECLARED BEFORE KNESSET REMAIN FIRM. EGYPT PREPARED FOR PROGRESS WHEN ISRAEL TAKES NECESSARY DECISIONS, THUS FAR AVOIDED. REPEATED OCTOBER 1973 WILL BE LAST WAR.

5. ON ARAB FRONT, SADAT ATTACKED THOSE QUESTIONING EGYPT'S CREDENTIALS, PLACING HIS REGIME IN FOREFRONT OF THOSE PROMOTING SOLIDARITY. HE DESCRIBED REJECTIONISTS AS "SPITEFUL"; SAID THEY DIVIDING ARAB WORLD. HE DENIGRATED REJECTIONISTS' ROLE IN OCTOBER

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BATTLE, ACCUSING THEM OF ENRICHING THEMSELVES THROUGH IGNORING OIL EMBARGO. NOTED THAT WITHIN WEEKS OF ADOPTING TRIPOLI DOCUMENT REJECTIONISTS FELL OUT AND BEGAN CAMPAIGN OF MUTUAL ASSASSINATIONS. PRESIDENT EVIDENCED NO REMORSE FOR BREAKING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THOSE ATTEMPTING FREEZE EGYPT OUT. NEVERTHELESS, SAID EGYPT PREPARED RESUME DIPLOMATIC TIES FOLLOWING SUMMIT--BUT THIS MEETING, TOO, SHOULD NOT BE HELD UNLESS SOMETHING CONCRETE LIKELY TO EMERGE.

6. LONGEST SECTION OF SPEECH DEVOTED TO INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS. SADAT REVIEWED HIS OWN WORKER CREDENTIALS, INCLUDING HIS PERSONAL STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE DURING HIS YOUTH. DENIED STRONGLY HE ISOLATED FROM PEOPLE. INSTEAD, SAID HE KNOWS THEIR PROBLEMS FULLY. IN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO WAFDISTS, SADAT SEVERAL TIMES SAID HE WOULD NOT ALLOW THOSE BORN WITH "SILVER SPOON IN THEIR MOUTHS" TO TAMPER WITH RIGHTS OF PEOPLE. LEFTISTS, AGAIN, TOOK THEIR LUMPS AS AGENTS OF MOSCOW" SEEKING REGAIN CENTERS OF POWER.

7. SADAT TOOK CREDIT FOR RESTORATION OF POLITICAL

FREEDOM, ESTABLISHMENT PERMANENT CONSTITUTION, CREATION OF SYSTEM BASED ON INSTITUTIONS. HIS OPPONENTS, HE NOTED, ARE STILL NOT HAPPY AND CLAIM NATION "IS FINISHED." THESE PEOPLE, PRESIDENT DECLARED, WHO WANT TO TURN CLOCK BACK TO PRE 1952 PERIOD WHEN .5 PERCENT OF POPULACE RULED EGYPT.

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8. SOME HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES. PARTIES ARE NOT END IN THEMSELVES; THERE WILL BE NO RETURN TO CORRUPT PRACTICES WHICH EXISTED BEFORE 1952. SAID PARTY PAPERS (OF LEFT AND RIGHT), AS WELL AS OPPOSITION POLITICIANS IN GENERAL, ARE ATTEMPTING DESTROY SOCIAL PEACE. LEFTIST AL-AHALI, IN PARTICULAR, SINGLED OUT FOR DWELLING OVERLY ON ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES FACING NATION. ADDITIONALLY, SADAT STRONGLY CRITICIZED OPPOSITION FOR SLANDERING THOSE POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY IN EFFORT INTIMIDATE THEM.

9. SADAT CONTRASTED OPPOSITION CRITICISM OF PYRAMIDS' PLATEAU PROJECT AND TAX BILL. LATTER, HE MAINTAINED, ISSUE OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE WHICH SHOULD BE PASSED IMMEDIATELY. FOR FIRST TIME SADAT PUBLICLY ADMITTED OPEN DOOR POLICY HAS INCREASED IMBALANCE OF INCOMES AND SAID THIS SHOULD BE REGULATED THROUGH TAXATION, INSTEAD

OF EXPORTATION AS "SOME" DEMAND. ONMUCH CRI-
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TICIZED PYRAMIDS' PLATEAU PROJECT, SADAT SAID THAT, IN
GENERAL, ONCE ISSUE PASSED BY PEOPLES ASSEMBLY, ALL
DEBATE SHOULD CEASE. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, HE DIRECTED
FURTHER REVIEW BY COMMITTEE HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER.
SADAT DENIED CHARGE HE WISHES DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT.
NEVERTHELESS, HE RESERVED HIS STRONGEST CRITICISM
FOR RECENT PARLIAMENTARY INACTION AND DISMAL LEVEL OF
DEBATE. HE DEFENDED CONCEPT OF PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY
BUT SAID MP'S SHOULD BEAR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR
ACCUSATIONS AGAINST INDIVIDUALS AND CALLED FOR REFORM
PEOPLES ASSEMBLY STATUTES TO ACHIEVE THIS. PRESIDENT
WARNED HE FULLY PREPARED CONFRONT "ONE DAY" THOSE
ATTEMPTING RETURN TO PRE-1952 PERIOD. ADDED HE WILL
DO THIS WITH FARMERS AND WORKERS AND NOT ARMED FORCES,
WHO OUTSIDE POLITICS.

10. SADAT SAVED DRAMA FOR END OF SPEECH WHEN HE
REVEALED THAT HE HAS CALLED UPON PM SALEM TO RESHUFFLE
CABINET "IMMEDIATELY". SAID RESHUFFLED MINISTERS
SHOULD BE INDIVIDUALS NOT AFRAID TAKE DECISIONS AND
ABLE CONFRONT PARLIAMENT. PRESIDENT SAID PRICES ON
BASIC COMMODITIES WILL REMAIN FIXED; MORE WORKER
CO-OPS WILL BE ESTABLISHED; WAGES WILL BE INCREASED
TO BALANCE PRICES, AND "SERVICES" WILL BE EXTENDED
TO ALL WORKERS. ALMOST AS AFTER THOUGHT, AND ONLY
FOLLOWING PM'S REMINDER, PRESIDENT ORDERED 10 DAYS'
WAGES BE PAID TO ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AS BONUS.
THIS DREW LARGEST APPLAUSE OF DAY. EILTS

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